The South 40

County faces fescue woes

By JAMES A. SMITH

Earlier I have discussed fescue fungus, fescue toxicity or fescue toxicosis. By whatever name you use it simply means trouble if it's present in sufficient quantities.

Two Appomattox farms lost colts this year; in each case the mare did not produce milk (one of the symptoms of fescue toxicity). I suspected that the fescue fungus may be present. The report shows one field with 87.1% infection and another with 21.4% infection. The higher level is the second highest infection found in the state, but remember only a limited number of samples have been tested. The lower test is borderline.

What can be done? If bred mares are grazing fescue pastures, remove them 60 to 90 days before foaling and don't feed fescue hay--preferably, feed alfalfa hay. Another choice is to destroy the fescue pasture and replace with an orchardgrass-red clover pasture. There may be hard fescue seed in the soil; therefore, a small grain and corn crop should be grown before reseeding to orchardgrass-clover.

Milk reduction may also be a problem in other animal species. At this point we have no measure to determine the extent that this is a problem.

This may be a reminder that pastures should not be in only one grass.

Testing facilities are limited.Only samples from suspected problem areas are being tested. Thirty plant samples (root and foliage) are required per field. At random, three parallel 200' lines are marked across a pasture and a sample taken every 20 feet or ten samples along each 200 foot line. Each sample is put in a styrofoam cup and packaged for shipment.

* * *

Blue mold is widespread in all tobacco belts except Virginia. Twenty new counties were added to the list at the end of last week. All reported cases were on fields not treated with Ridomil.

Growers that did not treat fields with Ridomil are urged to spray weekly with a protectant fungicide. See your tobacco production guide for details.

* * *

With the heavy rainfall this year corn could be susceptible to nitrogen deficiencies--the problem would be greatest on light soil or poorly drained soil. If you have corn on these type soils it may be a good investment of time to pull some tissue samples. The sample taken is determined by plant size--prior to 4th leaf stage, cut off the entire plant at ground level-30 plants constitute a sample. Prior to tasseling, collect the entire leaf below the whorl from 20 stalks. The sample should air dry over night before shipping to the lab.

The earlier a determination is made that nitrogen deficiency is present, the easier it is to develop corrective action.

* * *

Work in Oregon confirms that nitrogen added to alfalfa is undesirable. The report concludes, "In using commercial nitrogen fertilizer on alfalfa, the grower is competing with the natural fixation system, so he is paying instead of getting free fertilizer."

"Under good growing conditions, there appeared to be no advantage to use nitrogen fertilizer to boost alfalfa growth."

Hapiness is 4-H

Locals will head to VPI to attend state congress

By FRANK SWEET

Twenty-two senior 4-H'ers will leave for State 4-H Congress on the Virginia Tech Campus in Blacksburg on Monday morning, June 20. The group will participate in a variety of events during the week before they return on Friday morning. A number of the 4-H'ers will be competing on the state level at Congress. Included among these are: Ernest Humbles, Glen McClenny and April Talbot in the Meats Identification and Judging program; Brett Marston in Public Speaking; Howard Anderson in Poultry Marketing; Robert Taylor in Conservation of Natural Resources; Lisa Harrison in Forestry; Ada Hunter in Egg Cookery; Lucy Christian in Home Environment; Darrell Conner in Home Management; Martha Haley in Milk and Milk Products; Cheryl Wooten in Fashion Revue and Jeff Williams in Archery Skills.

State 4-H Congress is the largest single event held in Virginia for senior 4-H members. More than 1200 teenagers will take part in the 1983 Congress program.

* * *

4-H camp registration was completed last week with more than 150 4-H'ers enrolling for camp this year. Appomattox will attend camp during the week of July 4-8. Special details about what to bring, schedules for travel, etc. are being sent to each young person planning to attend. 4-H Camp provides a fun-filled learning experience for many young people during the summer.

* * *

Orientation meetings for summer sewing classes began this week for 4-H members who are interested in learning to sew. Young people who would like to sign up for the classes should contact the Extension Office at 352-8244. Volunteers are also needed to assist with the classes.

* * *

Senior 4-H members are encouraged to begin work on their Achievement Records which are due in the Extension Office on July 29. Achievement records provide the method through which 4-H'ers are selected to attend National 4-H Congress in Chicago. Details, forms, and assistance are available from the Extension Office.

* * *

Holiday Lake 4-H Center will host the first donor day on Wednesday, June 22. The special donor day is being held to emphasize the need for continued fund raising for the center. Future plans for the center include remodeling of the dining hall, construction of additional cabins and winterization of one existing lodging building. Contributions may be sent to Mrs. Mary Lou Harrison,P.O. Box 754, Appomattox,VA 24522. Mrs. Harrison is serving as Treasurer of Appomattox County's Holiday Lake 4-H Center Fund Raising efforts.

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ASCS Today

By TOM CONRAD

Appomattox County Farmers To Receive 59,059 Bushels of PIK Grain - Farmers in Appomattox County are scheduled to receive 59,059 bushels of grain as payment for reducing their crop acreages beyond the acreage reduction requirements. The total includes 20,461 bushels of wheat, and 38,598 bushels of corn.

More than 3065 acres of farmland in the county are enrolled in the payment-in-kind program, which is designed to reduce surplus stocks and stimulate farm prices.

Farmers will receive their PIK grain at harvesttime from outstanding regular and reserve loans, and from Commodity Credit Corporation stocks.

Payments-in-kind will be available on July 1 for wheat, and October 15 for corn. In order to give farmers marketing flexibility, the CCC will pay up to five months of storage cost from the PIK availability date to redemption of the commodity.

Nationally, PIK program participants will be provided about 1.76 billion bushels of corn, 548.6 million bushels of wheat, and 114.2 million hundredweight of sorghum.

Applications for the Filter Strip Incentive Program - Appomattox County farmers enrolled in the Acreage Reduction and/or the Payment-In-Kind Programs that farm in the Chesapeake Bay and Chowan River Drainage Areas can now sign up for the Filter Strip Incentive Program offered by the Commonwealth of Virginia. The filter-strip must be a part of the conservation use acreage to qualify.

Landowners have until July 15 to sign an application for the filter-strip program. This can be done at the same time he reports the conservation use acreage.

ASCS can only take the application and mark the location of the filterstrip on the photocopy. The local Soil and Water Conservation districts will review all applications and notify the applicants of their action.

The filter-strip is to be maintained for three years. It must be a minimum of 12 feet wide, but must average at least 20 feet in width and be planted in a permanent vegetative cover based on the recommended seeding specifications.

When the filter-strip is established, the applicant will be paid for 50 percent of the allowance by the local conservation district after September 1, 1983. Each of the two succeeding years, the applicant will be paid 2½ cents per linear foot for a total of 10 cents per linear foot. The full amount will be about $200 per acre if the filter strip is maintained for three years.

Funds for the program will be distributed on a first-come first-served basis.

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(Pints) Reg. 4/$1.99 — Limit 2 Cases $3.57

RAY NOBLE of the Appomattox County Volunteer Rescue Squad is shown accepting check from Peggy Smith, Service Committee Chairman of the Xi Gamma Tau Sorority on behalf of the sorority. (Photo by Bill Sherrod)

Piano pupils cited

Eight local piano pupils from the class of Virginia Carnefix have registered as candidates for membership in the National Fraternity of Student Musicians, sponsored by the National Guild of Piano Teachers, Teacher Division of the American College of Musicians, of which their teacher is a member.

The eight students are Regina Watkins, Jennifer Foltz, Susan Carnefix, Mary Beth Drinkard, Lisa Williamson, David Fedison, Terri Hamlett and Shavonne Carr.

The group of young piano hobbyists will play in the National Piano Playing Auditions, Hampden-Sydney College section and strive for Pledges, Local, District, State, National or even International honors which the Mother organization will confer according to the number of standard classic, romantic and modern pieces chosen from the Masters of piano-forte literature each student can creditably perform in the presence of an imported examiner of note from another state.

From coast to coast over 100,500 piano pupils of the nation will participate in this annual national piano-playing event being held in 700 music centers of the country and every entrant worth his salt will be certificated, given a gold or bronze embossed pin, a year's membership in the National Fraternity of Student Musicians and Piano Hobbyist of the Worlds.

Begun at Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, Texas, in 1929, national headquarters are still maintained in Texas, where Rules and Regulations are available on request free of charge by addressing Piano Guild, Box 1907, Austin, Texas 78767.

Local students perform

Students of Mrs. J. Franklin Vaughan performed National and International programs of classical, romantic, and contemporary pieces for the National Guild Auditions and the American College of Musicians.

Alice Angel played 15 pieces from memory and received the High School Diploma in Piano, The Paderewski Medal, The Guild Scholarship, The International Medal and the composer medal for her p-performance. She has received the Bach Medal for memorizing 15 Bach pieces and the Sonatina Plaque for memorizing five complete

Alice Angel played 15 pieces from memory and received the High School Diploma in Piano, The Paderewski Medal, The Guild Scholarship, The International Medal, and the composer medal her performance. She has received the Bach Medal for memorizing 15 Bach pieces and the Sonatina Plaque for memorizing five complete Sonatinas. Her program this year included a complete Sonata and a Bach Prelude and Fugue. She has memorized 10 or 15 selections for eleven consecutive years and performed them for the Guild auditons.

Shawn Womack and Kimberly Beale receiveds medals and certificates for a National program of ten memorized pieces. Shawn received the composer medal for six years of performance. Kimberly Beale received the composer medal for five years performance.

Amamda Watts received a medal and certificate for her National program of 10 memorized pieces and recogiition for her fourth year as a National Winner.

Rick Pack, Stacy Moore, Keshia Haskins, and Susan Watkins received certificates and medals for their third year of performing a National program of 10 memorized selections.

Susan Hart received the International cetificate and Medal for her first year of performance in the Guild playing a program of 15 memorized selections from all the musical periods.

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